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| **Activity:** | Pioneering | **Location:** | Off-Site | **Last review date:** | December 2022 | **Produced by:** | Alex Windows (Section Leader) |
| **Next review date:** | December 2025 | **Quality Assured by:** |  |

| **What are the hazards?** | **What are the risks?** | **Who is most at risk?** | **What control measures will be put in place?** |
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| **Terrain** | Tripping / Falling.  Sprains / Strains. | Young people. | * A leader should check for hazards in the build area before commencing the activity. * Pioneering projects should be constructed on flat and level ground as much as possible. * Young people should wear suitable footwear, such as hiking boots, as advised by leaders. * A leader should assess the weather risk before and during the session and consider moving this activity to another area. * In very inclement weather consider a different project that could be undertaken indoors if needed. |
| **Manual Handling** | Lifting heavy items.  Strains etc.  Back or other muscular injuries. | Young people. | * Leaders should check that the project they are planning and that the type of equipment and pioneering technique is appropriate for the age of the young people. * Young people should be shown the correct method to carry, lift, and store pioneering equipment. |
| **Construction and Dismantling** | Fingers, feet, or other body parts trapped between or under poles. | All. | * Leaders should give everyone participating in the activity a safety briefing. * Young people should always be supervised and supported where required. * Leaders or young people should plan the structure before starting to build. Make sure everyone is aware of this plan and if there are any ongoing changes. * Make sure the activity lead is competent, a leader or a suitable young person. * Give all participants appropriate training on tying lashings, moving, and supporting structures. * Young people should be encouraged/advised to work together and support each other and the structures. * Consider participants’ personal circumstances and any reasonable adjustments, as necessary. |
| **Equipment** | Personal injuries, rope burns, cuts, bruises, abrasions, puncture wounds, eye damage. | All. | * Leaders should check equipment (including ropes, spars, staves and blocks) before use and report any damaged or faulty equipment. * Ensure equipment is stored safely, where it cannot fall or roll onto people. * Equipment should be dried before storage to prevent the growth of mould or mildew. * Leaders should be aware of the allergies of participants, especially when using natural materials such as manila rope. |
| **Structure Collapse** | Impact with pioneering equipment.  Crush injuries.  Lacerations.  Fractures. | All. | * Leaders should supervise structures while they are being constructed, used and dismantled. * Check how the weather affects structures, for example, wet ropes causing stretching or tightening. * Where necessary, leaders should check that knots are lashings are correct and tight enough to support structures. * Limit the load put on structures. * Untie and dismantle the structure in a sensible order to ensure that it is safely lowered. * Make sure a qualified first aider is present throughout the activity. * Make sure a first aid kit is on-site during the activity. |
| **Fall from height** | Personal injuries  Lacerations.  Fractures. | Young people. | * Leaders should fully brief all participants who will be above one meter off the ground. * Use spotters when participants are off the ground. * Ensure the structure is secure enough to whole the weight of the people who will stand on the structure. * When standing on structures, consider the people below you, especially when climbing off the structure. |